

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 164020
ORIGIN NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SIG-03 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 SSM-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00
/077 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ARP:JRCOUNTRYMAN
APPROVED BY NEA:WCRAWFORD

-----061719 281337Z /46

R 280041Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY SANA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY MANAMA
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T STATE 164020

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PDIP, PEPR, US, YS

SUBJECT:RECENT EVENTS IN THE YEMENS: TWINAM MISSION

REF: (A) STATE 131114; (B) STATE 146499; (C) STATE 162188;
(D) ABU DHABI 1775

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1. ADDRESSEES WILL BY NOW HAVE SEEN REF (C) WHICH PROVIDES PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF EVENTS IN THE YAR AND PDRY.
2. IN BRIEFING HOST GOVERNMENTS ON U.S. VIEW OF RECENT EVENTS IN THE TWO YEMENS AND TWINAM MISSION, YOU SHOULD MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS:

-- PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE ASSASSINATION OF YAR PRESIDENT AL-GHASHMI AND THE SUBSEQUENT COUP IN PDRY ARE IN OUR VIEW ESSENTIALLY CORRECT;

-- WE HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE RAPIDITY AND UNITY WITH WHICH THE YAR HAS MANAGED GOVERNMENTAL SUCCESSION FOLLOWING THE AL-GHASHMI ASSASSINATION. WE INTEND TO WORK CLOSELY WITH OUR FRIENDS IN THE REGION TO ASSIST THE YAR'S EFFORTS TO ENSURE ITS DEVELOPMENT AND SECURITY;

-- THE YAR REMAINS CALM FOLLOWING THE APPOINTMENT OF A FOUR-MAN RULING COUNCIL DRAWN FROM THE FORMER REGIME WITH FORMER SPEAKER OF THE PARLIAMENT ABDAL KARIM AL-ARASHI AS CHAIRMAN. AL-ARASHI IS NOT A WELL-KNOWN FIGURE BUT AS A MEMBER OF AL-GHASHMI'S ENTOURAGE IS EXPECTED TO FOLLOW THE FORMER PRESIDENT'S POLICIES OF GOOD RELATIONS WITH MODERATE STATES IN THE AREA AND WITH THE U.S.;

-- THE SUCCESSFUL COUP IN THE PDRY AGAINST FORMER PRESIDENT RUBAY'L ALI WILL PROBABLY RESULT IN EVEN CLOSER TIES BETWEEN THAT COUNTRY AND THE SOVIET UNION AND AN INTENSIFICATION OF ITS DEDICATION TO MARXIST IDEOLOGY. WE ARE NOT PERSUADED THAT THE NEW PDRY GOVERNMENT WILL NECESSARILY STEP UP ITS ACTIVITIES AGAINST OTHER STATES

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IN THE REGION BUT WE ARE FOLLOWING THE EVOLUTION OF EVENTS THERE CLOSELY;

-- AT THE TIME OF THE AL-GHASHMI ASSASSINATION, JOSEPH TWINAM OF THE STATE DEPARTMENT WAS IN JIDDA EN ROUTE TO ADEN TO DISCUSS WITH SOUTH YEMENI OFFICIALS IN AN EXPLORATORY AND NON-COMMITTAL MANNER PROBLEMS WHICH EXIST BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS ON A VARIETY OF ISSUES. BECAUSE OF SUBSEQUENT DEVELOPMENTS WE INFORMED THE SOUTH YEMENI GOVERNMENT THROUGH THE BRITISH, OUR PROTECTING POWER IN ADEN, THAT WE HAD DECIDED NOT TO SEND THE TWINAM MISSION TO ADEN AT THIS TIME;

-- WE HAVE TAKEN ADVANTAGE OF TWINAM'S PRESENCE IN THE AREA INSTRUCTING HIM TO TRAVEL TO SANA, WHERE HE WILL MEET WITH NORTH YEMENI LEADERS JUNE 27-28. HE WILL BE CARRYING WITH HIM A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO REPUBLICAN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN AL-ARASHI;

-- EVEN BEFORE THE NEW YAR GOVERNMENT WAS ANNOUNCED, SECRETARY OF STATE VANCE SENT A MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE AND SUPPORT TO YAR FOREIGN MINISTER AL-ASNAJ.

3. FOR MUSCAT AND CAIRO: YOU SHOULD INFORM HOST GOVERNMENTS OF FOREGOING STRESSING RE-DIRECTION OF TWINAM MISSION AS IMPORTANT EVIDENCE OF OUR DETERMINATION TO PROVIDE TIMELY, APPROPRIATE SUPPORT FOR THE NEW YAR GOVERNMENT. YOU SHOULD ADD THAT WE WILL BE CONSULTING WITH THEM CLOSELY ON THE BASIS OF TWINAM'S REPORT FOLLOWING HIS SANA VISIT.

4. FOR LONDON: WE HAVE JUST SEEN LONDON 10221. FOREGOING IS FYI ONLY. WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH GUIDANCE VIA SEPTTEL FOLLOWING REPORT OF TWINAM'S MISSION FROM SANA AND SUBSEQUENT CONSULTATIONS IN JIDDA.

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5. FOR INFO ADDRESSEES EXCEPT SANA AND JIDDA: YOU SHOULD SHARE FOREGOING WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS AT YOUR DISCRETION.

6. FOR SANA AND JIDDA: ABOVE IS FYI ONLY. VANCE

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY:D M WINN

APPROVED BY:J W TWINAM

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P 080545Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI PRIORITY 1340

S E C R E T STATE 164020

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 164020 ACTION MUSCAT AND CAIRO
INFO LONDON, JIDDA, SANA, KUWAIT, ABU DHABI, MANAMA, DOHA,
MOGADISCIO, BAGHDAD, PARIS, TEHRAN, AND TEL AVIV DATED
JUNE 28, 1978.

QUOTE: S E C R E T STATE 164020

E.O. 11652:GDS

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UNQUOTE VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHMENT, BRIEFING MATERIALS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE164020
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JRCOUNTRYMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780267-0608
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780611/aaaaajjo.tel
Line Count: 267
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 131114, 78 STATE 146499, 78 STATE 162188, 78 ABU DHABI 1775
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2171480
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RECENT EVENTS IN THE YEMENS: TWINAM MISSION
TAGS: PDIP, PEPR, PINT, YS, US
To: MUSCAT CAIRO
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0abbc97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014